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## **News Release**

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### **Indian national sentenced for transporting obscene matters**

A 28-year-old man from India was sentenced today in federal court for transporting obscene materials into the United States.

U.S. District Court Judge Joan Ericksen sentenced Sudhir Porumamilla to 16 months in prison and three years supervised release Aug. 27 in Minneapolis on one count of transportation of obscene matters. Porumamilla was charged on April 7, and pleaded guilty on April 28.

According to Porumamilla's plea agreement, he brought into the U.S. a laptop computer that contained multiple files of obscene pictures and videos, including one photograph and one video of child pornography.

According to a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) affidavit, Porumamilla arrived at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Jan. 8 from India. During a routine inspection of Porumamilla's property, officers found one picture and one video containing child pornography on his laptop computer and on an external hard drive.

This case was the result of an investigation by ICE and the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Police Department, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Erica H. MacDonald.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC), a national initiative that encourages the use of multi-jurisdictional task forces to investigate and prosecute cases that involve the sexual exploitation of children over the Internet. PSC urges that law enforcement efforts be complemented by community-wide campaigns to assist victims of exploitation and to educate parents, other adults, and children about Internet safety.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, one in 33 children receives an unwanted sexual solicitation online each year. One in four children experiences unwanted exposure to sexually explicit material on the Internet each year. And, more than 20,000 images of child pornography are posted on the Internet every week. Moreover, recent research conducted by the Federal Bureau of Prisons indicates a strong correlation between possessing or distributing child

pornography and committing sexual-contact crimes against children.